

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1909. at the Post Office at New York as Se

Subscriptions by Matl. Postpaid.

NDAY, Per Year. ULY AND SUNDAY, Per Year MILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month. ege to foreign countries added. checks, money orders, &c., to

and by the Sun Printing and Publishi on at 170 Nassau street, in the Borou, titan, New York. President of the Ass Edward P. Mitchell, 170 Nassau street of the Association, M. P. Lafan, 1

Effingham House, I Arundel stre

ons are on sale at Klosque 12, near the Klosque 77, Boulevard des Capucines, de l'Opéra, and Klosque 19, Boulevard corner Rue Louis le Grand.

ds who favor us with manuscripts fo on wish to have rejected articles retur in all eases send stamps for that purpose

### Some Naval Problems.

It is a significant fact 'that so far there s been no protest in any important arter against Secretary MEYER's plan reorganizing the navy.

There is objection, but it does not apupon the surface, certainly not in ress. This is because Mr. MEYER ot asked Congress for any legislan in that respect. He has kept within lawful rights, under advice of the orney-General, and Congress is aprently content to let him solve his own m in his own way and to postpone gislative action until he shall ask

Eenator HALE's declared hostility to instruction of two new battleships ary MEYER's reorganization scheme cannot be regarded as bearing it. even remotely. Senator HALE it, and since he is chairman of the ropriations Committee and chief of Committee on Public Expenditures is obvious that his attitude will affect onal legislation. Nor is it inconrable that he has in mind the Govsent and promise to be for some Mr. HOLLYDAY, Chief the Bureau of Yards and Docks, says ard "will be able\_to accommodate ir largest vessels," but he merely The dock to which he lars "will be able" to take care of our at when will that be? In his an-No. 4, but only to urge measures its completion. Money to that end there is little more than a mudhole al, and they would have to be sent to private yards in which they were or to be built for any repairs of a seflous nature Fore River, Philadelphia. Newport News, and so on.

Mr. MEYER's plea in respect to Dock No. 4 at New York is timely. It is more than that, however; it is comprehensively suggestive. What are we to do with 26,000 ton vessels unless we are prepared to take care of them in time of s? Not so many years ago the now te Indiana was sent to Halifax to oked, and of course the largest ps we build can be sent back to their uilders for repairs; but that is not quite the arrangement, contemplated our naval scheme, and Mr. HALE may well base his objections to wholesale expansion upon that hypothesis. Whether he does or not we have no ans of knowing. But there is no sort of doubt that the Government needs ore and larger docks if it proposes to create a "modern" navy.

The question is where we shall begin, with the ships or with the docks. There another question, but that is high up in the air: How do we know that mere size and weight make anything for military efficiency?

# The Worm Turns.

The remarkable outbreak of crude roticism which has marked the stories ritten by women and by very young has at length aroused rather tardy libraries, on which the British public still depends for its reading, have grown tired of the complaints from decent exple that books are sent into their mes compared with which the yellow covered French novels of a generation ago are innocent Sabbath school tales. They have asked the publishers to send them advance sheets of their publicaread carefully.

In taking this action they disclaim any intention of acting as censors of track layers, was awed into submission literature. Their grounds are purely by two redcoats, absolutely alone, who commercial; their subscribers have kicked down the key poles of tent after taken offence, and they have in conseuence suffered considerable loss. To viate further harm the decision has place in circulation any book which, by in a report of Corporal C. Hogg of the ason of the personally scandalous, bellous, immoral or otherwise disrecable nature of its contents, is in opinion likely to prove offensive to any considerable section of our subscribers." The publishers, apparently, acknowledge the reasonableness of the braries' demand and are ready to

probably led to action at this particular time, rather than the continuance of the greater nuisance of novels whose pastiness is proclaimed in order to promote their sale. These last have caused more annoyance, however, and it must be gratifying to the libraries to be able. to deal with them all without advertismark of their accumulated impatience.

ing any particular one by making it the That they will carry out the wide scheme of exclusion that they announce without making many blunders or subwith the sales of the books objected to. Their mistakes, however, like the absurd exclusions sometimes made in our own public libraries, will be of little account compared with the service they may render in keeping bad books from innocent readers who would never think of touching them if they knew beforehand what they contained.

The Northwest Mounted Police. There is probably no novelty in their experience in western Canada that American settlers on the wheat lands appreciate more than the red coated mounted policeman who, if not ubiquitous, is always within call, allowing for the distances he must sometimes ride when wanted. We speak of him as a novelty because the American farmer on his own prairies must look out for himsel as a rule-in theory he has police proinvoke it and thinks ironically of it as an ægis. In short, he is his own policeman, and justice is a vague abstraction to Imagine then how the alien who has

taken his penates over the line regards a system of government that gives him a police protection that makes life safe, guards property and executes justic on the wrongdoer, no matter what the cost. He may well wonder how the Royal Northwest Mounted Police, in numbers no stronger than the force in a second rate American city, can preserve order and enforce the law in a territory extending from the American boundary line to the Arctic Circle and othing in the world to do with Sec- comprising a million and a half of square miles. There are only a thousand of this constabulary, and yet there has never been a lynching in its vast security within it or beyond it. It has occurred to us in reading an article about this famous corps in the December Century, by Miss AGNES DEANS CAMERON, that the protection which the settler has is as much moral as physical. ent's docking facilities as they are Their motto, "Maintien le droit," the trooper renders "Go where you are He tries to do what he is told to do, and exercises his discretion when his report that the New York Navy in doubt. It is true that the private or officer of the Northwest Mounted Police is a soldier as well as a police man, but he is more than both; he is the law, and he has a tradition of unflinchst ships when it is finished, per- ing bravery and a glorious prestige to nerve his arm. He is not supposed to port Secretary MEYER refers to count numbers, or weigh diffic consider hardships. Canada expects him to do his duty, not only "this day first appropriated by Congress in but every day. He doesn't perform it because he is well paid or will be prais for his energy and courage. He rea few industrious quicksands. It ceives 60 cents a day, and "it is the boast not a structure; it is a conundrum. of the service that they seldom get into anwhile, for the accommodation of print." The Blue Books are the bleakch warships as we have taken to build- est chronicles, and you find nothing nt has no docking facilities at its dis- Police in publications like the State man's Year Book. The force pa for a sort of foreign legion, and while it is true that the aristocrat as well as the lumberjack and the cockney is on its rolls, it recruits from all Canada too. The qualifications are: |22 to 40 years of age, 5 feet 8 inches in height, weight not over 175 pounds, physical soundness, ability to ride and groom a horse, and a certificate of good character. In such a country the powers of a commanding officer are necessarily wide, almost arbitrary. Thus Major Constantine

> fourteen years ago: "The thermometer showed 70 dear We had but five hours daylight, with candles at \$1.00 aplece, \$120 a box. I was commander in tary. Three tables furnished my room, with different kind of work on each of them. I walked from one to the other to rest. It was the end of and RICHARD the Fearless and ROBERT July when I got there, and before the middle of November we had built nine houses, one of them seventy-five feet long. We cut and squared all the timber ourselves. Yes, our shoulders go raw."

tells the story of his duty in the Yukon

may be called upon to act as commander in chief, magistrate and home and foreignesecretary. He must be postman and physician for the settler, sometimes fireman; he must make arrests on his own responsibility anywhere, guard the timber reserves, make weather reports, collect crop figures, account for new settlers, look after in for a few years past in England stray stock, keep order in the mining camps, and at all times act as detective constrance. The great circulating and pursue criminals. An American who killed his "partner" in the Lesser Slave Lake district was run down as far south as Laredo, Tex., convicted and hanged, at a cost to the Dominion Government of \$30,000. A Loucheux Indian who abandoned his two year old child to die beyond the Arctic Circle was tracked by one policeman, captured and taken 1,200 miles up the Mackenzie River tions, intimating that they will not or- in a cance and down by lake and trail der books before they have had them to Regina. Chief PIAPOT, defying the Government and camping with his tribe in the path of the Canadian Pacific tent after giving the chief fifteen minutes to remove them. One of the stories we like best of the efficiency of the en taken that in future "we will not Northwest Mounted Police is that told suppression of a "bad man" in a mining camp at North Portal:

"On the 17th Instant I. Corporal Hoos, called to the hotel to quiet a disturbance. The room was full of cowboys, and one MONAGHAN, or Cowboy Jack, was carrying a gun and nointer it at me, against sections 100 and 100 of the Crim inal Code. We struggled. Finally 1 got him comply with it.

The scandalous memoirs of a woman of title and an ill natured piece of verse in the serious. To the doctor Monagement and the serious that if I hadn't grabbed his gun there'd be serious and shutting his care against the voice of and shutting his care against the voice of the serious against the voice of the serious and shutting his care against the voice of the serious against the voice of the serious against the voice of the seri

It seems that the corporal's tunic was spoiled by the cowboy's blood and much furniture was broken. We have also a tenderness for the youngster dying in a blizzard who had scribbled on a page torn from his pocket diary: "Lost. Horse dead. Am trying to push ahead. Have done my best." Corporal Conradi, remonstrated with for riding off to the relief of a family seemingly hemmed in by a prairie fire, shouted back, "You can't call a thing impossible till you try," and saved the family. "He is a brave man. I shall never forget his too well established, its virtue too gencourage," wrote the settler to head- erally accepted to suffer dir quarters. We don't suppose that the they are picked for their looks, but it spiring respect in a whole nation, toseems to be that the esprit de corps
which they feel causes them to compete with one another in achievement and makes them scornful to hesitate or show the white feather in the presence of danger. Their obedience to orders becomes as natural as drawing breath. Thus they are remarkably efficient and wonderfully confident. When Miss CAM-ERON, who knows them by close observation, says that "on the margin of every page of the unwritten history of this great lone land the figure of the solitary horseman is vignetted" it is something more than figurative language.

#### Rouen's Millennium.

Rouen is a very pleasant town. It has a fine cathedral, which MONET has painted in every light, and other ancient buildings and countless historical associations that attract travellers, it is beautiful in its situation in the Seine Valley, it has industries and commerce that have kept it alive, and it has been ooked at by more foreigners probably than any provincial town in Flance: Lying as it does in the main highway between England and America and Paris, few are the persons who have not at least stopped over a train to get a glance at the Cathedral, the Clock Tower, St. Ouen and the other old buildings, and the spot in the old market-

place where JOAN OF ARC was burned. If Duke WILLIAM's successors had hosen to stay in his capital instead of ettling in the England he had conquered, Rouen might now perhaps be a combined London and Paris. As history willed it, the old town, which had been an important centre for a thousand years at least before the Normans came. continued as the capital of a rich and powerful province for another thousand ears. There was a Normandy till the French Revolution split up the land into meaningless administrative units that but the natives of the old province retain their characteristics still; they are still sensitive to the gibes of other Frenchmen on the peculiar qualities attributed to them, shrewdness, hardneadedness, a love for sharp bargains; they are still proud of the glories of the old province, and Rouen is still to them and the rest of France the capital not of the department of Seine-Inférieure, but

of the Duchy of Normandy. The municipal council of Rouen has just decided to hold a historical celebration in the old town, and the date it has selected, the thousandth anniversary of the settlement of the Normans in Normandy, is one of the few noted in the histories as a turning point. to force and recognizing the Northman pirate chief ROLLO as Duke of the province he had conquered, in the year 911, they mark the end of the Western empire of CHARLEMAGNE and the beginnings of the modern nations. That last migration from the North was the most romantic of all; to Britain and Iceland. and perhaps America, to Russia in the East, to France and Sicily, and thence

to Jerusalem and Constantinople. Strong rulers were the Northman chiefs after they had made up their minds to end their wanderings and settle in the fair land of France, and they beld their Duchy of Normandy secure while the CAPETS were struggling to keep together their little kingdom in the Ile de France. Romance and legend grew around their names before and after WILLIAM's conquest of England, the Devil have held their own in folklore with RICHARD the Lionheart. Normandy was the prize for which England and France struggled for centuries till the Maid of Orleans freed France from her enemies and the Channel Islands alone were left to Britain as a reminder of her Norman lords' possessions. And after the union with France Normandy always had her honorable share in

French history. If the English fashion for pageants should cross over to France, Rouen with its long history has material enough for one that should interest Englishmen as much as Frenchmen. Whatever shape the celebration takes, even if it be an exposition, it will be worth attending. It will elicit, undoubtedly, further demonstrations of friendship between English and French, and at any rate should make English and American travellers stop long enough really to see an attractive town that they usually only rush through.

## Tragic Testimony.

The power of compacting into the narrowest area of language the fullest expression of opinion has always belonged to CHARLES W. ELIOT, president emeritus of Harvard University. From the news columns of the Evening Post we extract the following characteristic explanation made by Dr. ELIOT of the Massachusetts rejection of the direct primary:

"First, nobody liked the direct primary sysem-sobody thought it was a good system the public no means of resisting the bossess activity of the machine: indeed, it strengthened

Hitherto Dr. ELIOT has borne an honorable part and enjoyed a respectable lace in public opinion. Is it not sad

other death in Casadian history. All of which angels? Independence of thought and THE REGENERATION OF TURKEY I have the bear to report."

It seems that the corporal's tunic was spoiled by the cowboy's blood and much what can be sadder than the present

jecting themselves easily to ridicule is "You can't call a thing impossible till nately direct primaries will not suffer impossible. Neither will they interfere you try," and saved the family. "He is as a result of this tragedy; its merit is a brave man. I shall never forget his too well established, its virtue too genfrom such an attack. It is Dr. ELIOT men of this splendid police are physi- who must bear the sad but not unjust cally braver than other men, although consequences. Yesterday a figure in-

> Secretary KNOX is finding the Nicaraguan problem rather more intricate than it appeared at first.

> The operators of heavier than air flying machines have become sufficiently expert to provide almost an accident a day.

#### A THEOLOGIAN'S RETORT. tural Religion Not Out of Date

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Mr. Goldwin Smith will undoubtedly be amused when he reads Mr. Lindengreen's sym-posium on the Bible printed in THE SUN of November 29, in answer to his question,
"What is the Bible?" A past master in dialectics himself, he will marvel to learn that
"dialectics is an artificial imitation of logic"
and that "its purpose is to defend error and

terpretation of God's revelation

as to make them fit 'in accord with the Bible." Spencer and Huxley, whom he quotes, did considerable thinking and demolishing along these same lines; but they never did much tonstructing; they never found much to replace what was thrust aside. The way beyond led but to darkness and distrust. There was no light gleaming in the distance, no hope ahead. Very unbiblical all this, but evidently our friend, sees further and better. al celebradate it has
date it has
deserved in the distance, no hope ahead.
Very unbiblical all this, but evidently our
friend sees further and better. His readins in Noroted in the
With the dogma of the immaculate conception make her so. The Church is not made up of people whose. Intellectual capacity could not and would not allow of a true apprehension." What is a "true apprehension" way? Apprehension of what? Nor are Catholice a "multitude who must have images and idols, ordinances and coremonies." Strange, is it not? Despite their intellectual capacity." a mass of

Vetichism." he calls "all the mysteries marical performances practised by Church throughout the world at all s. "What fools we mortals be "and so yet Catholics; and see the catholics; idea in a nutshell; and to that idea all his reading, all "true history" and even the Bible itself must conform. The Catholics are the worst offenders against the truth. They form by far the more numerous class of loois. Protestants as well come in for their share of abuse. They are unprogressive and in error too.

The whole gist of the matter is that the drift of the times is toward scientific materalism. Supernatural religion is out of date and man is the measure of the universe.

George E. Brown.

RARWAY, N. J., December 11.

REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENTS. nating Evidences of the As

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUNname ten owners of New York city real estate of considerable area and value who be very glad to have their valuation raised because it would secure a larger loan, yet they do not wish to ask for the increase as they do not know how high the ase erest. In one an assessor was insulted at theatre box office, and that, insult ten a theatre box office, and that insult ten years ago has cost that theatre up to date just 32,600. The theatre was assessed too low and the insult caused an inspection.

I know of another case, now also ten years ago, where a railroad refused a derk in the tax office a pass for three, and that refused cost that railroad just \$93,000 to date in increased valuations. This does not prove any wrong; the indiscreet action, to say the least, of the railroad called attention to the low valuations of their realty, which otherwise would have escaped notice, and the result was expensive.

New York, December 11.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN Sir: The offrage theory of the woman on a pedenta idom been better taken off than in the follows entitled "The Kittens and the Model, only written by an English suffragist: centry written by an English suffragist:

"On a nice chiffenier, on a bright little mat, Sat a perfectly beautiful crockery cst.

So prim and so proper, so smiling and neat, and her crockery kittens were grouped at her for Said Fluff to her rister, "Oh, look! Ohly seef-That cat is a model of what we should be. If we curl our tails stiffly and sit upon mata. We may presently grow into beautiful cats! That cat never hunts, and she never climbs trest the doesn't chase leaves, that are blown her

That cat never hunts, and she never climbs tree. She doesn't chase leaves, that are blown by 't breeze,
Or play with a ball or the end of a string;
Oh, not. She would sever attempt such a thing we must give up such habits and imitate her. I wonder if it is improper to purr?
It is plain that no cat ought to work or to pla She should sit on a mat with her kitens all day. Her slater said, 'Rubbish!' (She was not polite. But still I consider her sentiments right.) 'We mustn't do nothing but simper and smirk: Our muscles and claws were intended for wor I won't change my habits, however you has, For man made that model, but Nature made un! ALICE STONE BLACKWELL.

in the army, but with military training as the sole school through which they have passed; and of these many lost their lives last April. The only men who bad had any experience in administrative work were of the old régime and tainted with ness with which the work of purification has gone forward. It will be many years before a body of competent efficials is created, and their number must be very large considering the size of the empire. buropean Turkey. Nothing has yet been lone for the vast empire in Asia, where done for the vast empire in Asia, where also the task is complicated by other difficulties; but without the help of outside counsel and aid I feel convinced nothing lasting can be effected. Administrative efficiency, as we understand it in the West, can never be at home in the East; only an approximation to it is possible, for the East vaciliates continually between abject other than that of custom. The individual does not put himself easily under the vigorous discipline which modern conditions seem to demand, nor is this discipline apt to be demanded of him by his superiors. If Turkey is to become a modern State an approximation to modern administration of the superiors of the superiors. If Turkey is to become a modern State an approximation to modern administrative methods will be necessary. For this foreign aid is necessary, and the Young Turks seem to appreciate the necessity, having called European advisers into several of the administrations.

Will this suffice? The complaint is

and that "its purpose is to defend error and falsehood."

In his long and busy life I feel quite sure that Mr. Smith has never happened upon such a tautological thing as an "artificial imitation." Furthermore, I feel sure that up to the present he has always thought that dialectics is logic; or as the Standard Dictionary puts it: "Logic in general, especially as used in debate." Certainly he never knew before that dialectics meant "evading the point." "answering questions by asking questions," "confusing the meaning of terms." the use of "accusations and vituperations," &c. Mr. Lindengreen is evidently the victim of an idea of his own; and with that idea all things else must be in accord. Where, I should like to know, is that "real church history" with which he is so familiar? Where that marvellous book written by one who is not a "fanatic and a religious enthusiast"? His "true history" tells us that "theology is nothing but misses and theological controversy are nothing but misses," and the Young foreign aid is necessary, and the Young for the administrations.

Will this suffice? The complaint is heard on all sides that the proper functionary the latest to make it to make it to make it to me. It is all very well to have European advisers in Constantinople, but if the officials are wanting in the provinces to carry out the policies of the central Government of my the policies of the central Government of the policies of the central Go are apt to be held up for a long time in order that they may pass through the various stages demanded by the Constitution. Formerly a well intentioned governor might go ultra rures, impose a tax for the repairing of a road and have the imposition confirmed by special irade. Of course the procedure was irregular, but something, country east of Constantinople seems to be in the condition of suspended animation. Quite recently various Ministers have gone outside of Constantinople on a tour of in-spection to various towns in western Asia Minor. Such a course is multer a responsible body of officials is trained, and during this time I am afraid very little

been taken in hand. Under the old system none of the duties even of heads of departments was clearly defined. An Ambassader had to present himself at the Palace, at the Grand-Vizierate and at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In the same manner the Ministries of the Interior and of Public Works were continually crossing swords over questions that have been relegated definitely to one or the other, and the Grand Vizier had his finger in the pie as well. The question of the resignation of the Armenian Patriarch, which has been agitating Constantinople for some time, was taken up both by the Minister of Justice and by the Grand Vizier—to the evident complica-cation of the whole situation. The duties of the various Ministries are now being clearly defined, and Mehmed V. has given orders that the Palace shall in future keep entirely outside of all politics—a most

salutary measure, in view of the history of Abdul Hamid's reign.

This proper division of executive power is going hand in hand with a strengthening of the central authority. Mohammedan States in the past have all suffered fre too extended a delegation of power to provincial Governors. As long as the tribute or revenue flowed into the coffers of the Caliph or Sultan little concern was exhibited for the welfare of the provinces or for the means employed by the Governors to exact the taxes. This caused the ruin of the Caliphates of Damascus and Bagdad and of the numerous other States that were founded upon the debris of these empires. It has been the cankerworm that has eaten into the Turkish empire so that it has become denuded of some oilts most favored provinces. The advent of the railroad and the telegraph will simpilfy what was formerly almost impessible. Abdul Hamid knew this, but his insane fear of plotting and assassination restricted the blessings of civilization to

the narrowest compass and to the service of his own private ends. With the mor of his own private ends. With the more settled circumstances now prevailing Turbay is on the eve of a great development in both these means of communication. Many new lines of railroad are projected; númerous are the concession hunters that importune Ministers. If only the political interests that are back of most of these proposals could be eliminated definite concessions would be granted more readily. The proposal has also been made to abolish

functionaries who have fallen unwilling victims to this housecleaning—a very dangerous army of discontents who may at any time prove formidable opponents to the new régime; but this is a risk that the Government was bound to run and which it has accepted cheerfully. made by the Government in the payment of officials. The whole baksheath evil is traceable to the underpayment and the non-payment of functionaries. Many salaries, especially in the provinces, have been reduced, but everywhere in Turkey, as in the rest of the world the cost of living is increasing. I have heard complaints in Constantinople, in Broussa, in Beleut and in Damascous that the mileries.

a consequence food has risen greatly in price, and I am assured that outside of Constantinople and the highest officials bakeheesh is higher new than it was and is demanded as a right rather than an a favor. A very sainely European in Beirut assured me that he considered it no moral wrong at all to give bakeheesh to an official, but that it was a moral wrong to allow the official's family to starve!

has starved every department, and the large aums that are immediately necessary for the various services of the State can be got only by fathering most judiciously all sources of income. The greatest resource of any modern State is its credit all sources of income. The greatest resource of any modern State is its credit with the outside world, and it is just this credit of Turkey which was at the lowest possible ebb. Abdul Hamid not only lived from hand to mouth but pledged every possible source of income in the mad race to enrich himself and his favorites. It may therefore be considered a victory for the Young Turks second only to that which crowned the revolution when Javid concluded a loan of £7,000,000 at 86 without the intervention of the Dette Publique. The negotiations had been long and painful, as the foreign bondholders represented by the Dette wished to increase their hold upon the country. The successful issue of the matter is the first real proof that Europe, as represented by its financiers. Europe, as represented by its financier recognizes the stability of the new regi-and is ready to treat with Turkey as it d with other great Powers. It is natural that this success has been hailed with much delight by Turkish patriots. In addition M. Joly is working at a system of financial M. Joly is working at a system of financial inspection, and when the new law voted by Parliament for gathering the taxes is put into execution it is hoped that there will be

into execution it is hoped that there will be at least a 10 per cent. increase in the revenues. The law is modelled upon that adopted by the foreign commission for the Macedonian vilayets, and in Macedonia it realized an increase of 12 per cent.

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs is dependent upon the Ministry of Finance. Happily a Belgian, M. Sterpin, has accepted the directorship after it had been refused by Sabah Pasha, the late efficient head of the post office in Egypt. The reorganization here is complicated by the existence of the foreign post offices in some of the principal cities of the empire. As yet no material change is visible, and it will present, and each successive take much time before the old conditions year will see this continue. J. tetter will arrive when once it is put into a Turkish letter box, or even whether it It to send them out. If such things happen in the capital you can judge what the cir-cumstances are in other parts of the empire. but such conditions ought to occasion no surprise. A letter carrier receives the munificent salary of forty francs a month. Other employees are pail from so to 200 francs! The natural result is inattention to duty and a positive distaste for hard work. These conditions will continue until proper salaries are attached even to the humblest positions. The only safe way at the condition may not apply exactly the country, but a scarcity of farmto trust to luck or to send a messenger. Kansas. Secretary Wilson save "the fail The foreign offices are of course a pricking ure of the American farmer to get out o is compromised, as both are too evident signs of administrative inferiority, but the European Governments to waive their postal privileges—which are not only a source of income but a necessity—until a radical change is evident in the Turkish States, and easing off of labor in the fields

postal privileges—which are not only source of income but a necessity—until a radical change is evident in the Turkish offices and a distinct proof afforded of more administrative efficiency.

In the customs department an Englishman, Mr. Crawford, has been attached to the director, Siri Bey, as counsellor. The The American Federation of Labor and to be quite satisfactory, as the receipts have increased as much as 17 per cent. The increase of the tax on imports have increase of the tax on imports all the Powers have given their consent. This further success tends measurably to increase the prestige of the Young Turk increase the prestige o The increase of the tax on imports from 11 to 15 per cent, seems assured, as all the Powers have given their consent. This further success tends measurably to increase the prestige of the Young Turk leaders, though it will tend to heighten still further the cost of living as so many of the necessities of life have to be imported.
There are many anomalies in the Turkish customs laws which strike the stranger as very peculiar and which demand rectification in some way. A peculiar instance may be cited in regard to tobacco. Exportation of this to non-Ottoman countries in free of all duty, but to those which really or only nominally are a part of the empire it is burdened with a tax. Now, of the 40,000,000 kilogrammes produced yearly 40,000,000 kilogrammes produced yearly the greater part goes to Egypt. Up to 1885 this had to pay a duty, of one plastre a kilogramme: in 1896 the duty was increased to three plastres; but both Greece and this pays no outgoing duty it can compete successfully with that coming from Turkey. Egypt is also beginning to grow its own tobacco, and Turkey has lately been forced to reduce its outgoing duty to one and a half piastres. That the component parts of an empire should discriminate against one another in favor of the stranger is not sitted to the first of an empire should discriminate against one another in favor of the stranger is not giltogether unknown elsewhere, but only when an empire is made up of separate and distinct parts.

There are two State departments in which more than ordinary difficulties are en-

bountered, because their modernization is bound to run counter to religious preju-dices and to social customs which have been bonored by centuries of observance. The first is that of the Evkaf or pious foundations interests that are back of most of these proposals could be eliminated definite concessions would be granted more readily. Mehammedan countries. The term "plous frundations" does not really coincide with the iniquiteus system of farming out the iniquiteus system of farming out the the Mohammedan term, as the latter in-revenue. If this can be done and a settled financial control established, the "Pashawirthschaft," as the Germans call it, will which Mohammedans set great store, have wirthschaft," as the Germans call it, will be made to compromised by the officials wirthschaft," as the Germans call it, will come to an end.

The next step has been to reform the various Ministries. Wherever this has been taken in hand seriously it has naturally occasioned much ill feeling. Many of the Government effices in Constantinople were so overcrowded that there was little work to be done by each individual. I am assured that the capital is filled with more than two thousand functionaries who have fallen unwilling victims to this housecleaning—a very dangerous army of discontents who may at any time prove formidable opponents to the new regime; but this is a risk that the Government was bound to run and which it has accepted cheerfully. Turks.

Still greater difficulty will be encountered in the reorganization of the Department of Justice. The Minister, Najmeddin Bey, although of the old regime, is know to be a liberal and just man who did we as Governor of Bagdad. He has an Italian adviser in the person of Count Leon d'Os torog, who has already suggested the advisability of substituting the Italian for the French penal code now in vogue. Mo has meeding are betterily attached to the Gheriat law, the law of a liberal code in the Cheriat law, the law of a liberal code in the Cheriat law.

starve!

The most effective reorganization has taken place in the Ministry of Finance. Javid Pasha, the Minister, belongs to the Donmeh of Salonica (Jewish converts to Mohammedanism). He is assisted by a noted French sconomist, M. Laurent, and a commission composed of Mesars. Joly, Steez. Graves, Malosa, Vitalis Efendi, Abdurrahman Bey and Atha Bey. Javid has taken into his office the best men trained in the Banque Agricole, which was founded twenty-four years ago by Jemal Bey, the sonin-law of Ghalib Pasha. The work of the commission is indeed difficult. The financial maindministration of the last fifty years has starved every department, and the large sums that are immediately necessary for the various services of the State can be get only by fathering most judiciously believer in a status of inferiority as regards the acceptability of his testimony before the law. Unless the spirit of Islam has changed in this respect a radical reorganization of justice is impossible.

It is true that the capitulations and other

State; but it is the reasoned judgment of all non-Turks with whom I have spoken that it would be folly on the part of the these safeguards. In this respect Constantinople is very different from the interior. Such a relinquishment might be possible there, where the eyes of Europe can see all that is done, but in the provinces it would be inviting danger of the worst kind; for Mohammedan sentiment are extremely strong in the interior, and I am assured that it would be most difficult to the interior of a non-Mohammedan. to obtain justice for a non-Mohamme in a case against a person belonging to Judge's own faith. RICHARD GOTTREE DAMASCUS, November 1.

THE PROBLEM OF LIVING. pulation and Trade Union

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: reply to the question. "What is the cause of the increased cost of living?" I will say that it is mainly the old question of "demand and supply." The consumers are increasing more rapidly than the producers. Food that in a few years we will be importing wheat. President Ryan of the packers

proporting meat.

Let us now study the conditions and causes. Last year in going through the country I saw many women (some pretty old ones, too) at work assisting in husking and hauling in corn. On inquiry why this was I was told that it was impossible to get bands and the farmers were obliged to put their own families in the field. The bachelor "hired man," who was formerly a member of the farmer's family, is rapidly becoming a story of the past, and the little

their amour propre methods." and while this is true to some both are too evident extent it is largely due to the lack of suffieient help to put both old and new methods into practice. I think that about double

CLEVELAND, February 5.—Organized hroughout the United States has started

Pruning the Language To THE EDITOR OF THE SON Sir. Since the regular and not unfamiliar fuse is on again about the use of words, why not make it a capital offence to use the word "classy" when one means of

The Discriminating Reader. To the Editor of The Sun—Sie: I skip: All Caristman fiction. All magazine text printed with more the bare of black ink or any share of colored. All ditto bossting illuminations, All ditto illustrated with skatches colored child's paint box by the owner of the san

(Of late) C. W. Ellot. PULES.

A City Hall Industry.